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LETTER DATED 14 JANUARY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraqi airspace by United States aircraft for purposes of reconnaissance and provocation continued over the period 5-12 January 1993.

5-6 January 1993

(a) Northern region: 28 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres, centred over Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Zakho and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 61 sorties, flown by F-4, F-15 and F-16 aircraft at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 3,000 to 10,000 metres, centred over Nasiriyah, Basra, Khidr, Salman and Jalibah.

6-7 January 1993

(a) Northern region: 10 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 8,500 metres, centred over Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Zakho, Tall Afar and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 72 sorties, flown by F-4, F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 8,000 to 9,500 metres, centred over Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Busayyah, Jalibah and Qurnah.

7-8 January 1993

(a) Northern region: 14 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 8,000 to 9,500 metres, centred over Zakho, Dohuk, Amadiyah, Mosul, Irbil, Tall Afar and Ayn Zalah.

(b) Southern region: 33 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 7,000 to 10,000 metres, centred over Jalibah, Busayyah, Artawi, Salman, Samawah, Qal'at Salih, Basra and Khidr.

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8-9 January 1993

(a) Northern region: 20 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 8,000 to 10,000 metres, centred over Mosul, Dohuk, Zakho, Rawanduz, Irbil and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 84 sorties, flown by F-4, F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres, centred over Basra, Salman, Samawah, Nasiriyah, Qurnah, Khidr, Qal'at Salih and Jalibah.

9-10 January 1993

(a) Northern region: 42 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 10,000 metres, centred over Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Zakho and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 107 sorties, flown by TR-1, F-4, F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,500 to 20,000 metres, centred over Samawah, Basra, Busayyah, Salman, Qal'at Sakr, Shatrah and Amarah.

At 1140 hours on 10 January 1993, a United States TR-1 aircraft began hostile reconnaissance of the southern region from an altitude of 20,000 metres, leaving Iraqi airspace at 1405 hours.

11-12 January 1993

(a) Northern region: 36 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 5,000 to 8,000 metres, centred over Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Zakho and Tall Afar.

(b) Southern region: 58 sorties, flown by F-4, F-15 and F-16 aircraft at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 7,000 to 9,500 metres, centred over Nasiriyah, Samawah, Jalibah, Busayyah, Salman, Artawi, Qal'at Salih, Qurnah and Basra.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative